



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

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Burmaster commends exemplary middle schools

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster commended over 80 middle schools for being named to the Association of Wisconsin School Administrator (AWSA) and Department of Public Instruction's Exemplary Middle School list.

"Success in middle school builds on the foundation for success in high school and beyond," Burmaster said. "The Exemplary Middle School recognition program lets us show support for schools that are preparing our students for future accomplishments."

"Middle school is an important time for young adolescents, which is why connecting with students at this level is vitally important," added Jim Lynch, AWSA executive director. "The exemplary middle schools recognized by this award have made that connection. We will be looking to these schools for their 'best practices' in making sure that all kids have an adult to whom they can turn for academic, social, and emotional learning during the middle school years."

This is the second year that AWSA and DPI have recognized the good work that Wisconsin middle schools are doing by announcing exemplary middle schools. The recognition program was instituted through AWSA's Middle Level Commission.

A total of 307 middle schools were reviewed for the recognition program. The review identified middle schools with high growth in reading or math scores in the past school year; reading or math scores in the top 10 percent in the past year; or high growth in scores in reading or math for schools comprised of a high poverty population. These schools were invited to apply for the Wisconsin Middle School of Excellence Award. Applications will be rated based on collaborative leadership and professional learning communities; personalization and the school environment; and curriculum, instruction, and assessment. The 2008-09 awards will be presented at the AWSA Middle Level Commission Conference in Elkhart Lake on Feb. 19.

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NOTES: The attached list includes Wisconsin schools and communities from AWSA's Exemplary Middle Schools. This news release is available electronically at http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2008_164.pdf.

Exemplary Middle Schools

2008-09

Altoona Middle School	James Wright Middle School, Madison	River Valley Middle School
Amery Middle School	Kettle Moraine Middle School	Riverdale Middle School
Bay Lane Middle School, Muskego-Norway	Kewaskum Middle School	Saint Croix Falls Middle School
Bay View Middle School, Howard-Suamico	Kiel Middle School	School of Technology and the Arts II, La Crosse
Bayfield Middle School	La Farge Middle School	Sixth Street Academy, Milwaukee
Birchwood Middle School	Lake Geneva Middle School	Slinger Middle School
Bonduel Middle School	Lake Shore Middle School, Mequon-Thiensville	South Middle School, Eau Claire
Cadott Junior High School	Lincoln Junior High School, Alma Center	Southern Door Middle School
Cedar Grove Middle School	Lodi Middle School	Spring Harbor Middle School, Madison
Chetek Middle School	Logan Middle School, La Crosse	Steffen Middle School, Mequon-Thiensville
Clayton Middle School	Loyal Junior High School	Stockbridge Middle School
Crivitz Middle School	Marinette Middle School	Templeton Middle School, Hamilton
De Forest Middle School	McKinley Middle School, Kenosha	Turner Middle School, Beloit-Turner
De Pere Middle School	Melrose Junior High School	Walden III Middle School, Racine
De Soto Middle School	Menominee Indian Middle School	Washington Middle School, Oconto Falls
DeLong Middle School, Eau Claire	Mineral Point Middle School	Webb Middle School, Reedsburg
Denmark Middle School	New Holstein Middle School	Webster Middle School, Cedarburg
Drummond Junior High School	Nikolay Middle School, Cambridge	West Salem Middle School
Einstein Middle School, Appleton	Olson Middle School, Muston	Westby Middle School
Elk Mound Middle School	Onalaska Middle School	Weston Middle School
Flambeau Junior High School	Oostburg Middle School	Whitefish Bay Middle School
Gibraltar Middle School	Paideia Academy, Kenosha	Whitehall Middle School
Gilmore Middle School, Racine	Phillips Middle School	Williams Bay Junior High School
Glacier Creek Middle School Middleton-Cross Plains	Pilgrim Park Middle School, Elmbrook	Wisconsin Hills Middle School, Elmbrook
Glidden Middle School	Potosi Middle School	Wonewoc-Center Junior High School
Greenville Middle School, Hortonville	Prairie Farm Middle School	
Hilbert Middle School	Prescott Middle School	
Hortonville Middle School	Rib Lake Middle School	
